



MONTHLY REPORT SEPTEMBER 2017

Commercial and Recreational Fisheries

- The wild fishery continues to thrive with most individuals catching their limit in the two-hour vibrio control plan window.
- The department continues to patrol each tide every day. We began documenting all harvesting activity on Sept. 10, 2017.

Enforcement

- As a follow up to the complaints about a dragger operating inside of the breakwater, the Shellfish Constable went fishing with the captain in question, clearly showed him the "no drag" line and left him with documentation illustrating the same. Mutual understanding was reached.

State and Federal Relations

- We worked with the Mass. Division of Marine Fisheries (MADMF) biologist to prepare and execute an FDA peer review of CCB 13 (Wellfleet Inner Harbor) water sampling points. We updated signage at all of our landings and escorted the team on its site visit. As a result, we have added one more sampling point at Uncle Tim's Bridge to make sure that the permanently closed area line is holding. We will also update MADMF on Town management openings and closings.
- We attended the Mass. Shellfish Officers Assn. meeting and learned about an upcoming Memorandum of Agreement between towns and the state in which towns will be responsible for monthly patrolling of state-closed shellfishing areas to begin in 2018.

Town Relations

- We met with the Herring River Restoration Committee, the Marina Advisory Cmte and the Health & Conservation Agent.
- Shellfish Constable Nancy Civetta provided testimony at a ZBA Hearing on a shellfish cooler on private property. The department wants farmers to remove gear from grants during the winter in order to prevent safety hazards if ice moves the gear. In order to do that, shellfish must also be moved off the flats, and coolers provide a storage opportunity.
- Shellfish Advisory Board: The department is working closely with the board to update the 2008 Shellfish Management Plan.

Propagation

- We broadcasted a few batches of seed oysters from our grant to Herring River and Indian Neck.
- The department has been hiring Daniels Recycling to deliver whole sea clam cultch weekly so we will have enough to work with next spring.
- We continue to research options for buying or leasing intertidal land for the Town Grant.
- We are working with Harbormaster to create a new barge RFP for a cultch spreader/pile driver.

Education & Outreach

- The department has been gathering emails and cell phone numbers from commercial and recreational permit holders and grant owners and employees. It initiated its newsletter "[Town Shellfish Crier](#)" and sent two announcements to commercial fishermen and grant holders and one to recreational permit holders. Response from all has been overwhelmingly positive.
- Asst. Shellfish Constable John Mankevetch spoke with Masters students from Antioch College about Wellfleet's shellfish industry and management and its priorities and goals for the future. He also procured 250 seed oysters for a growth rate study that NRHS Environmental Science and gave two talks for these high school students.

- Shellfish Constable Nancy Civetta provided background information to editor Ed Miller of The Provincetown Banner regarding the ZBA Hearing on the shellfish cooler, and was quoted in the following media pieces:
 - Cape Cod Times: "[Wellfleet shellfish industry 'back to full strength'](#)," Sept. 8, 2017.
 - Cape Cod Times: "[Zoning board OKs backyard shellfish cooler](#)," Sept. 21, 2017.
 - Cape Cod Times: "[Study: Warmer ocean raises threat of Vibrio bacteria](#)," Sept. 28, 2017.
 - The (New Bedford) Standard-Times: "[Oyster farmers reflect on lessons learned](#)," Sept. 30, 2017.

2017 Permit Summary to Date

As of 9/7/17, we have sold the following shellfish harvesting permits:

Senior Commercial	35 @ 60.00 = \$2,100.
Commercial	99 @ 310 = \$30,690.
Junior Commercial	3 @ 110 = \$330.00
Senior Resident	373 @ 20.00 = \$7,460.
Resident	249 @ 60.00 = \$14,940.
Seasonal Resident	93 @ 40.00 = \$3,720.
Non Resident	47 @ 210.00 = \$9,870.
Seasonal Non Resident	80 @ 85.00 = \$6,800.
Eel	4 @ 3.00 = \$12.00
TOTAL	983 \$75,922.00

Respectfully submitted,
 Nancy Civetta
 Shellfish Constable